

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a divisional of application Serial No. 08/973,391, filed March 12, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,632,441, issued October 14, 2003, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/480,261, filed June 7, 1995, now abandoned, which applications are incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 29, with the following amended paragraph:

~~Figure 4~~ Figures 4A and 4B T cell proliferation assay. Rabbit splenocytes were incubated in 96 well microtiter plates in quadruplicate with SPE-A, K16N-SPE-A, and N20D-SPE-A for 72 hours. Cells were pulsed with [³H] thymidine for 18 to 24 hours, harvested onto filters, and [³H] thymidine incorporation was measured in a scintillation counter. Results are expressed as counts per minute (CPM) versus concentrations of toxin in µg/ml. Data presented are from the most representative of three independent experiments.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

~~Figure 5~~ Figures 5A and 5B T cell proliferation assay. Rabbit splenocytes were incubated in 96 well microtiter plates in quadruplicate with SPE-A, C87S-SPE-A, C98S-SPE-A, and C90S-SPE-A for 72 hours. Cells were pulsed with [³H] thymidine for 18 to 24 hours, harvested onto filters, and [³H] thymidine incorporation was measured in a scintillation counter. Results are expressed as counts per minute (CPM) versus concentrations of toxin in µg/ml. Data presented are from the most representative of three independent experiments.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

~~Figure 6~~ Figures 6A and 6B T cell proliferation assay. Rabbit splenocytes were incubated in 96 well microtiter plates in quadruplicate with SPE-A, K157E-SPE-A, and S195A-SPE-A for 72 hours. Cells were pulsed with [^3H] thymidine for 18 to 24 hours, harvested onto filters, and [^3H] thymidine incorporation was measured in a scintillation counter. Results are expressed as counts per minute (CPM) versus concentrations of toxin in $\mu\text{g/ml}$. Data presented are from the more representative of three independent experiments.